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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/801,267	03/06/2001	Rachel A. Meyers	10448-025001/MPI2000-061P	5520

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EXAMINER

EINSMANN, JULIET CAROLINE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1634

DATE MAILED: 06/05/2002

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/801,267

Applicant(s)

MEYERS, RACHEL A.

Examiner

Juliet Einsmann

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 March 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

Election/Restrictions

- I. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1-7, 18 drawn to nucleic acids, vectors, and host cells, classified in class 536, subclass 23.1, for example.
 - II. Claims 8-10, drawn to polypeptides, classified in class 630, subclass 300.
 - III. Claims 11 and 15, drawn to an antibody, classified in class 424, subclass 130.1.
 - IV. Claim 12, drawn to a method for producing a polypeptide, classified in class 435, subclass 69.1.
 - V. Claims 13-14, drawn to methods for detecting polypeptides, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1.
 - VI. Claims 16-17, drawn to methods for detecting nucleic acid molecules, classified in class 435, subclass 6.
 - VII. Claims 19-20, 22, and 31-36, drawn to methods for identifying a compound which binds to a polypeptide or modulates the polypeptide, classified in class 436, subclass 501.
 - VIII. Claims 21 and 23-30, drawn to methods for modulating the activity of a polypeptide, classified in class 514, subclass 44, for example.

Further Restriction Requirement

A further restriction requirement is applied to groups VII and VIII. Both of these recite methods which utilize an agent that is selected from a peptide, a phosphopeptide, a small molecule, an antibody, an antisense, a ribozyme, a triple helix molecule, a 26583 nucleic acid, or

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any combination thereof. If applicant elects one of groups VII or VIII, applicant must further elect one of these agents for examination. For whichever agent is elected, the claims that recite only non-elected agents will be withdrawn from prosecution. Methods which utilize each of these distinct agents are separate from one another because the agents each represent separate classes of biological molecules with different structures, functions, and modes of action. A search of one would not be coextensive with a search of the other, and thus, it would be a significant burden for the examiner to examine all of these methods together.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

The inventions of Groups I, II, and III are patentably distinct because they are drawn to different products having different structures and functions. The nucleic acid of Group I is composed of nucleotides linked in phosphodiester bonds and arranged in space as a double helix. The polypeptide of Group II is composed of amino acids linked in peptide bonds and arranged spatially in a number of different tertiary structures including alpha helices, beta-pleated sheets, and hydrophobic loops (transmembrane domain). The antibody of Group III is also composed of amino acids linked in peptide bonds and arranged spatially in a very specific tertiary structure that allows that antibody to specifically bind to particular regions, i.e. epitopes, of the encoded polypeptide. Further, antibodies are glycosylated and their tertiary structure is unique, where four subunits (2 light chains and 2 heavy chains) associated via disulfide bonds into a Y-shaped symmetric dimer. Furthermore, the products of Groups I, II, and III can be used in materially different processes, for example, the DNA of Group I can be used in hybridization assays, the antibody of Group III can be used in immunoassay, and the polypeptide of Group II can be used

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to make fusion protein with an enzymatic function. Consequently, the reagents, reaction conditions, and reaction parameters required to make or use each invention are different. Therefore, the inventions of Groups I, II, and III are patentably distinct from each other.

2. Inventions I and IV and inventions I and VI are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the nucleic acids of invention I can be used in a variety of methods such as detection assays, hybridization assays, nucleic acid purification methods, and for the expression of the polypeptide they encode.

3. Inventions II and V, inventions II and VII, and inventions II and VIII are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the polypeptides of invention II can be used in a variety of methodologies such as binding assays, to raise antibodies, and as a subject in detection or modulation assays.

4. Inventions III and V are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP

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§ 806.05(h)). In the instant case the antibodies of invention III can be used in other methods such as in methods of treatment or methods of modulating the expression of a polypeptide.

5. The products of group I are unrelated to the methods of groups V, VII and VIII. The products of group II are unrelated to the methods of group VI. The products of group III are unrelated to the methods of groups IV, VI, VII, and VIII. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case the different inventions the products of the listed inventions are not recited as necessary for or to be used in the listed inventions.

6. Inventions II and IV are related as process of making and product made. The inventions are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process (MPEP § 806.05(f)). In the instant case the polypeptide of invention II can be made by a different process such as by chemical synthesis.

7. Inventions IV, V, VI, VII, and VIII are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case the different inventions are each drawn to separate methods which recite different goals and process steps. Consequently the reagents necessary to practice the methods are different, the functions preformed by the methods are distinct and the effects of the methods are distinct.

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8. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as demonstrated by their different classification and recognized divergent subject matter and because inventions I-VIII require different searches that are not coextensive, examination of these claims would pose a serious burden on the examiner and therefore restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

9. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

10. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Juliet C. Einsmann whose telephone number is (703) 306-5824. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, W. Gary Jones can be reached on (703) 308-1152. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-4242 and (703) 305-3014.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.



Juliet C. Einsmann
Examiner
Art Unit 1634

May 31, 2002



W. Gary Jones
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 1600